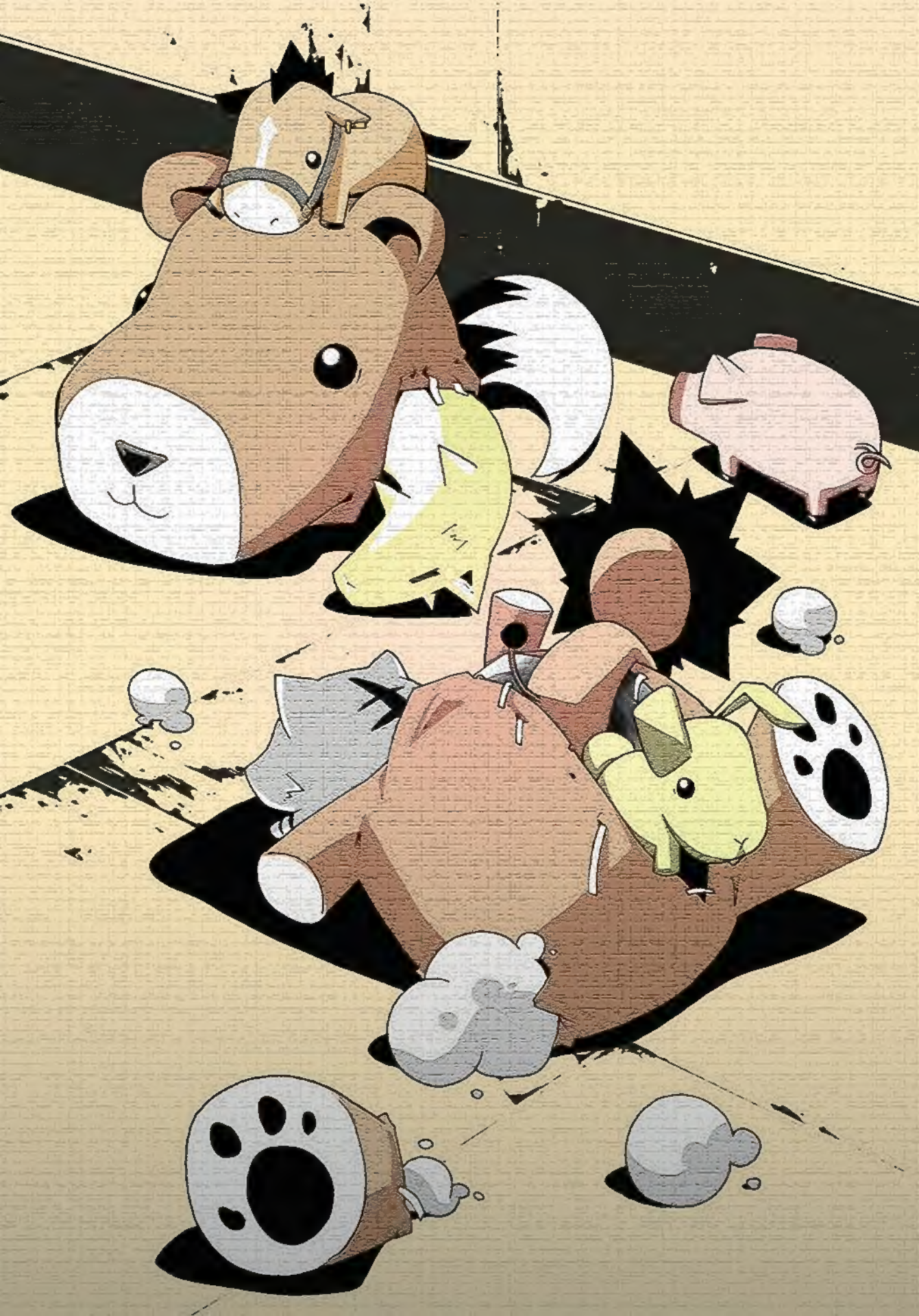
JUDGE
YOSHIKI TONOGAI
6
FINAL



JUDGE

YOSHIKI TONOGAI

CHAPTER 27
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6

.....
TAKIZAWA
...
DON'T TELL ME THE ONE WHO KILLED SHINOMIYA WAS...

DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS.
I JUST FOUND IT.
FOUND IT?

CU.....
GU (GRAB)

YEAH...

CUT THE CRAP!
I'M NOT GONNA FALL FOR THAT!!
HIKARI ...
KOSO (WHISPER)
JIRI (SCRAPE)
WE'RE GOING TO ESCAPE BACK DOWNSTAIRS ...

KA
(CLACK)
KA
WELL PLAYED, HAYATO...

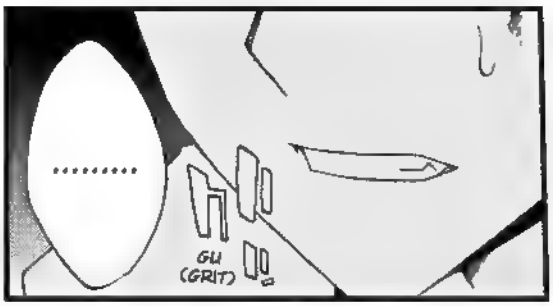
カ
NOW...

CHAPTER 27 BETRAYAL

FATHER.
WHEN YOU PHRASE IT LIKE THAT, YOU MAKE US SOUND LIKE THE BAD GUYS.
HMPH.
.....!

CRAP.....

KA (CLACK)
WHAT DO I DO NOW? AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BE...


.....
GU (GRIT)

I HAVE TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO ENSURE THAT AT LEAST HIKARI CAN ESCAPE...

BOSO (MUTTER)
WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL, RUN.
GYU (SQUEEZE)
HIRO...?
DA (DASH)

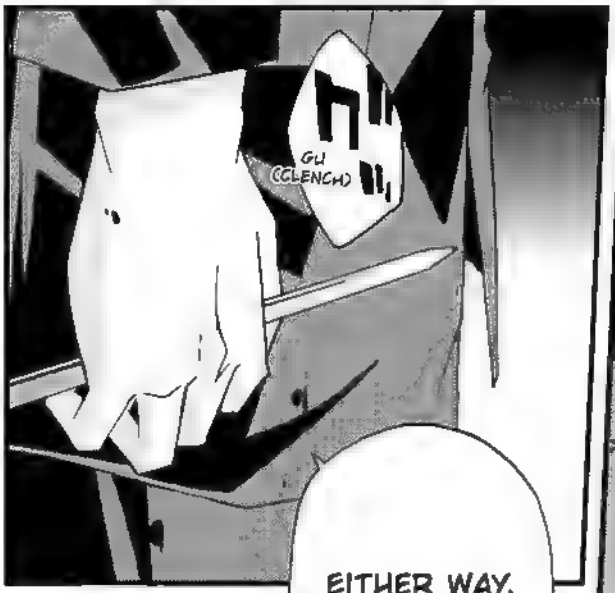
KASHA (CLATTER)
DO (SLAM)
!?
B-BUT.....
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE! GET OUT OF HERE!
HURRY!!
B.KU (FLINCH)

I WON'T LET YOU KILL HER. .....
GU (PUSH)
GU
IF NOTHING ELSE, I WILL PROTECT HIKARI!!
.....!
TA (DASH)
BOSO (MUTTER)

BACHI
BACHI (BZZT)
KACHI (CLICK)
DOSA (FWUMP)
KA (CLACK)
ONE GOT AWAY.
SA (SHF)
ARE MY GLASSES BROKEN?
DAMN ...

NO NEED TO PANIC. IT'LL BE FINE.
FATHER...
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CHASE AFTER THE GIRL?
THERE'S NOWHERE FOR HER TO ESCAPE.
BESIDES, WHAT CAN TWO GIRLS DO?
SU (SWF)

CHIRA (GLANCE)
.....I SEE YOUR POINT.


GU (CLENCH)

EITHER WAY, IT'S DONE WITH, AFTER TWO MORE.

VERY WELL.
WE'LL HAVE TO KILL THEM ONE BY ONE.

SU (SWSH)
I THOUGHT THERE WERE STILL THREE OTHERS LEFT?
TWO MORE?

KO
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
OH.
KO (CLICK)

THE NOISY OLD MAN BACK WHERE I WAS...

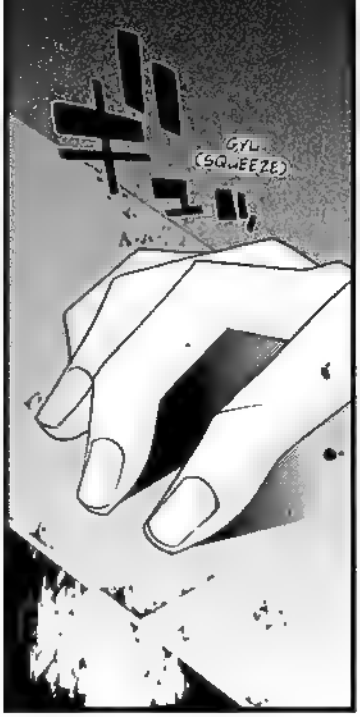
...STARTED KICKING UP A FUSS AS SOON AS HE HEARD ABOUT FIGHTING TO THE DEATH...
...SO I SILENCED HIM.

BUT AN AX REALLY ISN'T THE BEST TOOL.
JIRI (CRUNCH)

.....

ONCE IT SINKS INTO FLESH, IT'S TOO TIME-CONSUMING TO REMOVE.
THANKS TO THAT, THE OTHER ONES WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE.

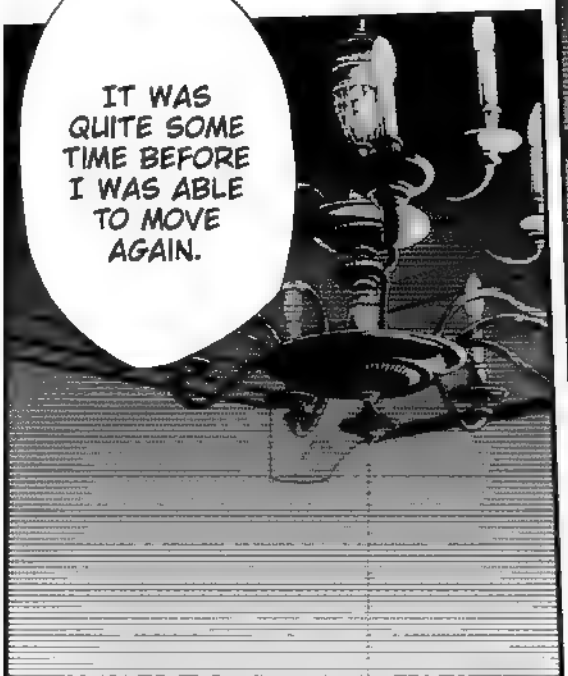
WHAT HAPPENED OVER THERE EXACTLY .....?


GYU...
(SQUEEZE)

.....
JUST RECALLING IT ENRAGES ME.

I MUST'VE BEEN DRUGGED, BECAUSE I HAD NO CONTROL OVER MY BODY.

I AWOKE...
...TO FIND MYSELF SITTING IN A CHAIR IN THE DARKNESS.


IT WAS QUITE SOME TIME BEFORE I WAS ABLE TO MOVE AGAIN.

DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE LIKE THAT THE WHOLE TIME?
THEY'RE FUCKING WITH THE WRONG MAN!!
ABDUCTING AND IMPRISONING ME...
GARI (SCRAPE)
.....NO.
BEFORE LONG, THE TELEVISION MONITORS CAME ON...
...MAKING IT BRIGHT ENOUGH FOR ME TO SEE THAT THERE WERE OTHER PEOPLE THERE.

KON (TAP)
...TO PUT ON ONE OF THE MASKS THAT WAS IN THE ROOM.
AFTER THAT, I FOLLOWED THE INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE TELEVISION...

...BUT ONE OF THE PEOPLE WITH US WAS ALREADY DEAD.
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT AT THE TIME...

SOMEONE RELATED TO THE MAN IN THE PIG MASK?

AFTER THAT, I JUST ENJOYED THE SHOW.
!!
THE SHOW?
WATCHING WHILE YOU ALL PASSED JUDGMENT ON ONE ANOTHER.
YES.

AT THE START OF THE JUDGMENTS ...
THEY ONLY WISHED FOR THEIR OWN CHILD...
...OR OWN LOVER...TO BE SAVED.
...MOST OF THEM WERE FEARFUL THAT THEIR OWN LOVED ONES WOULD BE CHOSEN.
ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A WOMAN WHO ADMONISHED THEM, TELLING THEM TO GET AHOLD OF THEMSELVES.

...AS IF FOLLOWING THE ONE ON-SCREEN...
THEN...
...AFTER THE FIRST JUDGMENT WAS COMPLETED...
...THE GUY ON OUR SIDE WEARING THE BEAR HEAD ALSO DIED.

IN QUITE AN AGONIZING FASHION.

HE CONTINUED WRITHING AROUND FOR AN EXCESSIVELY LONG TIME.

IT WAS QUITE THE SPECTACLE.

THIS JUDGMENT UNDOUBTEDLY ISN'T INTENDED FOR ALL OF YOU.

.....
ARE YOU SAYING...

SHOWING US OUR LOVED ONES FIGHTING AND REVEALING THEIR TRUE NATURES... DYING...
...IT CAN ONLY BE A GAME CONCEIVED TO TORMENT US.

GOKU (GULP)
...BUT ON YOURS...?

THE THREAD CONNECTING US WASN'T ON OUR SIDE AT ALL...

WELL...
...CONNECTING BACK TO ME, AT ANY RATE.

DO YOU HAVE SOME INKLING OF WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, FATHER?
SA (SWF)

AN INKLING ...?
WHAT IS IT YOU THINK I DO FOR A LIVING?
KO (CLICK)
NO MATTER WHAT SORT OF CASE COMES BEFORE ME, I MUST PASS JUDGMENT ON IT.
IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO BEAR GRUDGES AGAINST ME.
ALL THE MORE REASON THAT I ALWAYS REMAIN CALM...
...AND COOL-HEADED.

THAT IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A JUDGE.
OR DO YOU NOT EVEN UNDERSTAND THAT MUCH?

JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER.
SHE LEFT THE HOUSE WITHOUT EVER GRASPING THAT.

...HMPH.

M...MY APOLOGIES.

AND THEN SHE DIED, ISOLATED AND LONELY...
A TRULY FOOLISH WOMAN.
YOU DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE HER, DO YOU?

.....THIS HEIGHT WILL BE PERFECT.
KA (CLACK)
...NO, SIR.

ZU (DRAG)
ZU
EVEN SOMEONE AS INCOMPETENT AS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE THAT MUCH.

TAKE CARE OF ONE OF THE OTHER TWO.

I HAVE TO PAY HIM BACK FOR EARLIER, AFTER ALL.

I'LL DEAL WITH THIS ONE.
GUI (YANK)

...THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO INDULGE IN SUCH LUXURIES.
GU (SHOVE)
TRUTHFULLY, I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT AS PAINFUL AS POSSIBLE, BUT...
NOW...
...THIS IS THE END.

IT'S NOT THE END FOR ME.
HOW'RE YOU STILL —!?
GUI (YANK)

HA.....
HAYATO!?

BACH (BZZT)
BACH!
TO (TAP)
SORRY FOR BEING SUCH AN INCOMPETENT SON.
.....
AH.....
YORO (STAGGER)

IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT BY STAYING CALM AND COOL-HEADED?
..... WH...
WHY... ARE...Y... YOU.....?
YORO
ZURU (SLIP)
!?

HI

DON (THUD)

NOW THERE'S JUST ONE LEFT.

.....!

HI
DON (THUD)
NOW THERE'S JUST ONE LEFT.

JUDGE

PETAN (SLUMP)
.....
EVEN THOUGH I WAS LEFT WITH NO OTHER CHOICE...
HUFF...
HUFF...
GU (PRESS)

...IT'S NOT A GOOD FEELING, SHOVING A BLOOD RELATION TO HIS DEATH.

CHAPTER 28 MOTIVE

CHAPTER 28 MOTIVE

TAKIZAWA... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THAT... WAS YOUR FATHER.....

IT'S NO BIG LOSS FOR A MAN LIKE THAT TO DIE.
GU (GRIP)

.....

...THE CHILD HE HAD WITH HIS MISTRESS.
...I'M...
トン
TON (TAP)
HUH...?
MY MOTHER FELL ILL AND DIED WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
SHE SPENT HER LAST FEW YEARS HOSPITALIZED, BUT...

...IN HIS CAPACITY AS A JUDGE...
...HE ACCEPTED BACKDOOR BRIBES TO ALTER HIS VERDICTS.
...THAT MAN NEVER CAME TO VISIT...
...AND DIDN'T EVEN SHOW UP AT HER FUNERAL...
WHAT'S MORE...

LAUGHABLE, ISN'T IT?
TAKIZAWA ...
BESIDES...
...IF I HADN'T DONE THAT, YOU'D BE DEAD RIGHT NOW.

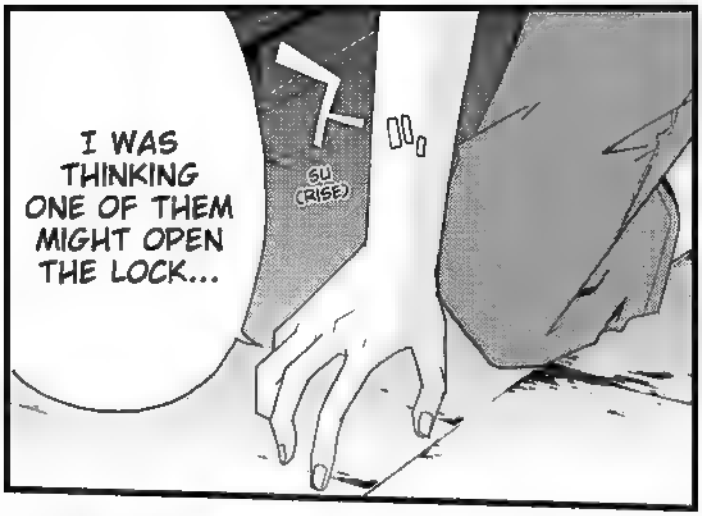
BUT GOOD JOB FOLLOWING MY LEAD...
...EVEN THOUGH I COULDN'T GIVE YOU ANY DIRECTION OTHER THAN TO FEIGN UNCONSCIOUS-NESS.

...IN THE MOMENT, ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS DOING WHATEVER IT TOOK TO SAVE HIKARI.
DOSA (THUD)
DIDN'T YOU SUSPECT IT MIGHT BE A TRICK?
.....
ALTHOUGH I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT...
IF THERE WAS...
...EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE THAT IT COULD SAVE HER, THEN IT WAS A RISK I HAD TO TAKE.

OH, THIS?
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, BUT I REALLY DID FIND IT IN KIMURA'S ROOM.
IN ASAMI-SAN'S ROOM!?
WHY WOULD SHE HAVE HAD SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I HAVE NO IDEA.

WAS SHE THE ONE WHO KILLED SHINOMIYA, THEN?
OR SOMEONE SET THINGS UP SO THAT IT WOULD LOOK THAT WAY.
ASAMI-SAN...
IN EITHER CASE...
...SHE'S DEAD NOW, SO WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING.

.....
THOSE MASKS...
...ALL RIGHT, THEN.
WHAT'S OUR NEXT MOVE?
...THEY'RE LOCKED ONTO THEIR HEADS SO THEY CAN'T TAKE THEM OFF THEMSELVES.
YOUR POINT?


I WAS THINKING ONE OF THEM MIGHT OPEN THE LOCK...
SU (RISE)

THE KEYS THAT KAZU-SAN AND SHINOMIYA HAD...

IF POSSIBLE, I WANT TO GET THAT THING OFF HIKARI.

HA-HA!
EVEN IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS, YOU'RE WORRYING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE...

A MARTYR UNTIL THE VERY END, HUH?
.....IS SHE...
...YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
NO.....

GU (GRIT)
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO PROTECT HER.
BUT...
...SHE'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO ME.
I DECIDED A LONG TIME AGO THAT I WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING TO MAKE HER SAD AGAIN...
KA (CLACK)
.....I SEE. IN THAT CASE...

...I'LL GO SEARCH THE ROOM WITH ASAI'S BODY FOR THE KEY HE HAD.
AS SOON AS I HAVE IT, I'LL COME FIND YOU.
TAKIZAWA ...?
KA
WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO WHEN WE MEET UP AGAIN.
YOU HEAD OVER THERE FIRST.

GU (PUSH)
GU
.....!

BUT...
...WHAT AN IDIOT THIS GUY WAS.

ALMOST THERE...

SACRIFICING HIS OWN LIFE TO PROTECT HIS PARENTS.

!
GOSO
GOSO (DIG)
HE WOULD'VE BEEN MUCH BETTER OFF IF HE'D ONLY WORRIED ABOUT HIMSELF.
GU (SHIF)
GU (CLENCH)
.....FRANKLY, I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THIS THING...
THIS MUST BE IT...

OTHERWISE, THERE'LL HAVE BEEN NO POINT IN SAVING HIM...
...BUT I NEED TO GET HIM ON MY SIDE.
KA (CLACK)
.....

I NEED HIM TO MAKE IT OUT OF HERE ALIVE...
...AND TESTIFY THAT THIS WAS AN ACT OF SELF-DEFENSE.
NII (GRIN)
KA
THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS THAT WAY, EVEN IF MY STEP-BROTHERS SUSPECT ME.
AND I CAN CLAIM MY INHERITANCE WITHOUT HESITATION.

.....

I MUST EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO WHOEVER ORCHESTRATED THIS LITTLE GAME.

JUST ONE MORE PERSON...

KA (CLACK)

AND WITH THAT, THIS GAME WILL COME TO AN END.
.....NOW, THEN...
GIVEN THE SITUATION, I CAN USE THE GIRL...
...TO KILL OFF THE REMAINING OBSTACLE.

I JUST NEED TO HAND OVER THE KEY AND KEEP UP THE PRETENSE OF FRIENDSHIP A LITTLE LONGER.

KA (CLACK)
!!
DOKU (BADUMP)

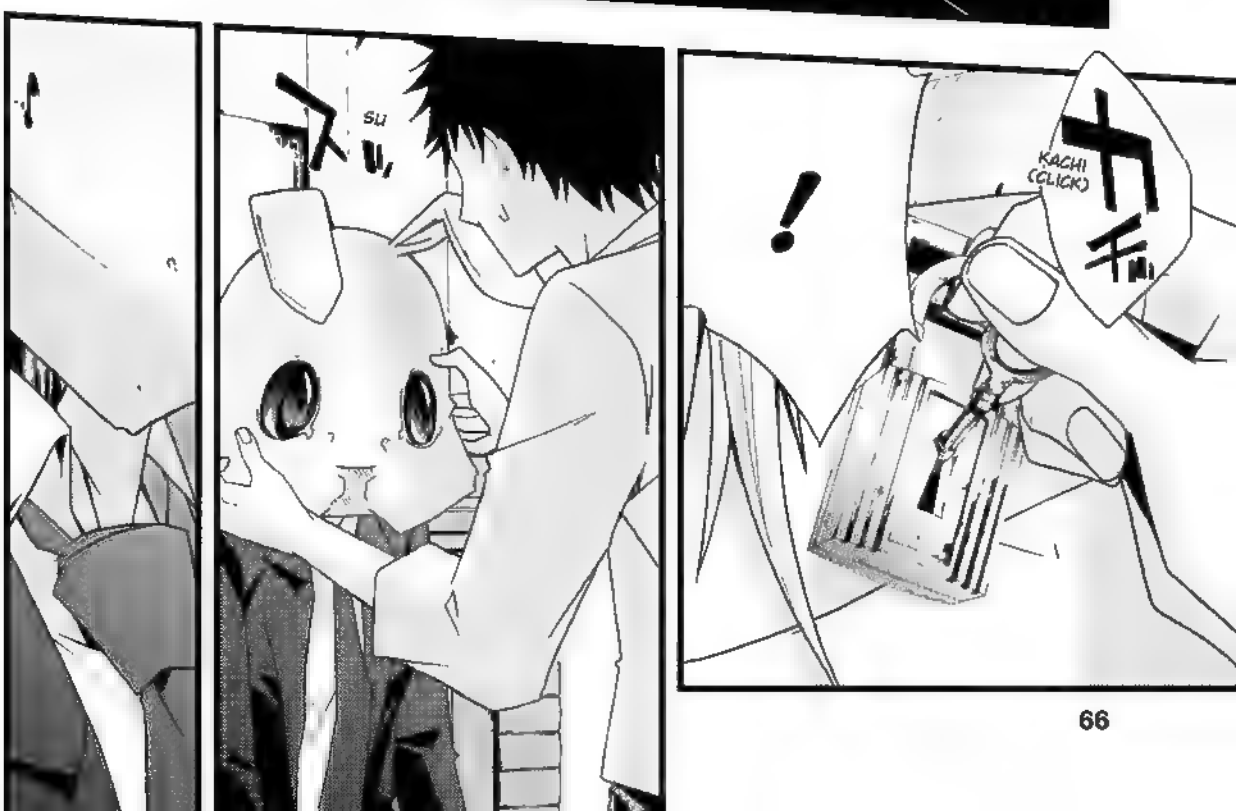
YOU CAN'T BE...

!!!
GUSHA
(SPLRT)

I'M SURE HE'S GOT A KEY IN HERE...
GOSO (DIG)
HIRO...
DON'T WORRY.
GOSO
GOSO

HOLD ON.
BA (JUMP)
I'M GONNA GET THAT THING OFF YOU.
SU (SLIDE)
HERE IT IS!

KACHA
KACHA (RATTLE)


SU
!
KACHI (CLICK)

HIRO.....
GYU (GRIP)
HIKARI .....
HUFF...
HUFF...

...YOU'RE HURTING ME...
GYU (HUG)
.....!
HEY...! HIRO...

BA (FWIP)
I GUESS I SENT TAKIZAWA OFF FOR NO REASON.

S.....
SORRY.
BUT I'M JUST SO RELIEVED .....

.....

YOU DIDN'T SEE A GIRL NAMED RINA IN HERE, DID YOU?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
SU (RISE)
I THOUGHT SHE WAS IN THIS ROOM, BUT...
RINA.....?
YEAH.
KA (CLACK)

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID.
SU (SWSH)

JIRI (SCRAPE)
WHO'S THERE .....?

HIRO!! WE HAVE TO RUN!
BA (FWAP)

HE'S ON OUR SIDE.

TAKIZAWA MUST'VE FOUND THE OTHER KEY AND COME BACK WITH IT.

.....
GYUU
(SQUEEZE)
HIKARI
.....?

KA
(CLACK)

HOW'RE YOU...!?

KA
(CLACK)
HOW'RE YOU...!?

JUDGE

CHAPTER 29 SPECTATORS

WHAT...?
HE'S DEAD.

...AND I GAVE HIM A JOB SIMPLE ENOUGH FOR HIM TO ACCOMPLISH.

EVEN THOUGH ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ...

.....
IT'S THANKS TO HIS FOOLISH AMBITIONS THAT THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY.
HE WAS A TRULY STUPID BOY.
YOU KILLED YOUR OWN SON.....!?
IT'S PRECISELY BECAUSE HE'S MY SON THAT I CANNOT OVERLOOK HIS BETRAYAL.
KA (CLACK)

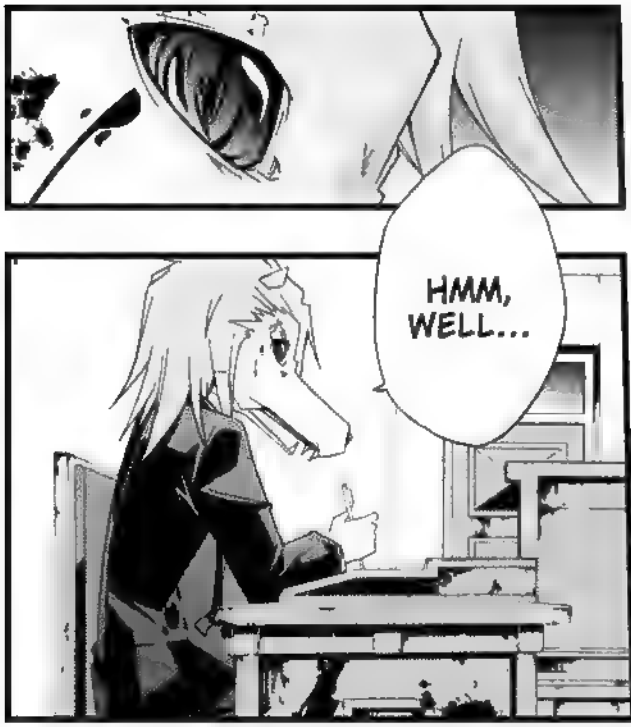
HE LOST BECAUSE HE WAS WEAK.
THAT'S JUST THE FACT OF THE MATTER.
GII (CREAK)
BUT YOU'VE BOTH LUCKED OUT.
?

POTA (DRIP)
POTA
CROSSING SWORDS WITH YOU TWO WILL ONLY RESULT IN MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION.
SUTO (SIT)
THANKS TO YOU AND MY SON, MY BODY'S AT ITS LIMIT.
.....
SO I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.
BIKU (SOLD)
WON'T YOU TEAM UP WITH ME TO DISPOSE OF THE REMAINING TWO?

IF YOU DO, WE CAN ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE AMICABLY, TOGETHER.
WHA ……!?
NOT A BAD OFFER, RIGHT?
SU (SWF)
!!

I'M SATISFIED AS LONG AS I GET OUT OF HERE.
I DON'T CARE WHO I HAVE TO KILL.
ALL YOU TWO HAVE TO DO IS DRAW THEM IN HERE.
THEN LEAVE THE REST TO ME.

WHETHER THEY LIVE OR DIE, IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU, RIGHT?
.....
GII (CREAK)


HMM, WELL...

AND IF I REFUSE?

SU (LIFT)

GARI (GRIND)
IN THAT CASE, I MAY NOT SURVIVE THIS MYSELF...
GARI
DON (SLAM)
GARI
...BUT I'LL BE SURE TO TAKE ONE OF YOU DOWN WITH ME.

.....

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BRING THEM HERE, RIGHT?

FINE, THEN.

I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT!!

GAGII (SKREEK)

HIRO.....

JIRI (STEP)

.....!

I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT!!
GAGII (SKREEK)
HIRO.....
.....!
JIRI (STEP)

.....

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BRING THEM HERE, RIGHT?

FINE, THEN.

BA (FWIP)
C'MON, HIKARI!
...YES.
UH...
H-HOLD ON!
GU (TUG)
Let's do what he says for now.
Are you serious?
BOSO (WHISPER)

Let's just focus on finding the two of them...
...and then we can think up a way to protect them from him.

HOLD IT.
BIKU (JOLT)

DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D LET YOU GO TOGETHER?
KA (CLACK)

.....

ONE OF YOU STAYS HERE.
AND...
SU (SWSH)
...YOU WANNA GIVE ME THE KEY TO UNLOCK THIS MASK?
YOU HAVE IT, DON'T YOU?

KACHA (CLINK)
SU
.....

KUSHA (RUFFLE)
DAMN, THAT'S BRIGHT...
.....

I'LL STAY BEHIND.
HIKARI, YOU GO LOOK FOR THE TWO OF THEM.

WHEW.....

SO PLEASE, GO.

B-BUT...
I'LL BE FINE HERE.

HIRO...

OKAY .....

.....
HUH.....?
WHO DO YOU THINK COULD HAVE SET UP SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
LIKELY SUSPECTS ...?
CAN YOU THINK OF ANY LIKELY SUSPECTS?

WHO WOULD THINK UP SUCH AN ASININE GAME?

YOU HEARD WHAT I TOLD MY SON EARLIER, DIDN'T YOU?

...MUST BE SOMEONE WHO'S HARBORING A GRUDGE AGAINST THE NINE OF US WHO WERE IN THERE.
ANY NUT JOB WHO WOULD DO SOMETHING SO SCREWED UP...

I HAVE NO CLUE.
A GRUDGE .....
.....
GU (GRIP)
WHAT POSSIBLE GRUDGE COULD SOMEONE BEAR AGAINST HIKARI THAT WOULD MAKE THEM WANT TO TORTURE AND KILL HER...
...I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE...

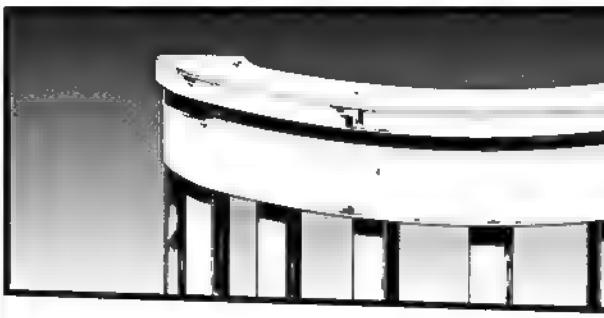
...BUT...
.....

...THEY WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO LOCK US UP IN THIS COURTHOUSE, OF ALL PLACES.

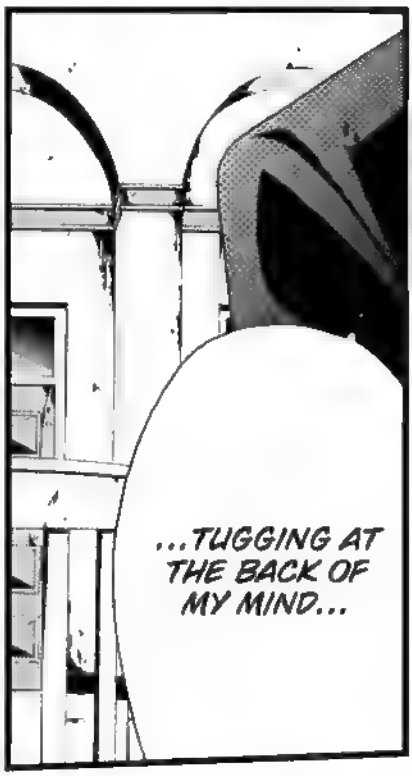
INDEED
.....

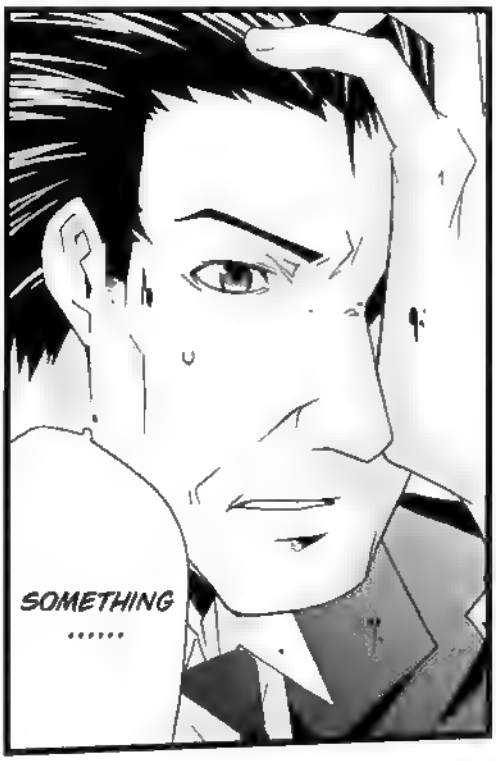
IF I HAD TO GUESS...
...THERE'S SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR THAT THEY'RE FIXATED ON.

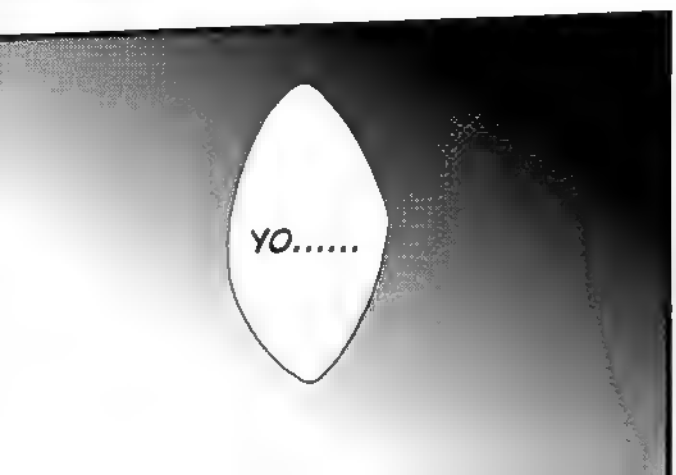
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS PLACE WAS CHOSEN HAPHAZARDLY.
FURTHERMORE, THAT MAN WHO WAS COVERED IN CUTS...
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO WASN'T RELEGATED TO ONE OF THE TWO GROUPS.
WHO THE HELL WAS HE.....?

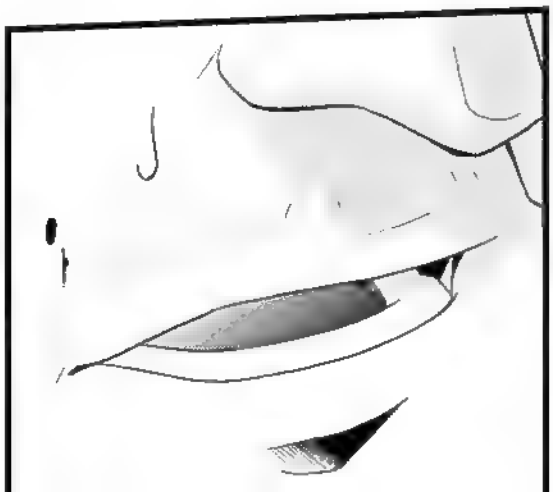


WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW...?


...TUGGING AT THE BACK OF MY MIND...


SOMETHING .....


YO.....



YOSHINO.
RYUUJI YOSHINO ...!?

HEY!
HA (GASP)
ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST...

THAT MAN...

UH...
YEAH, I'M FINE.

I KNOW I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE...

MOST LIKELY IN A COURTROOM ...
BUT WHERE WAS IT?
...IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHAT WAS HE DOING IN HERE?
BUT...
.....
JIRI (SCRAPE)

THAT'S RIGHT.
HE WAS ON THE WITNESS STAND...
SIGN: COURT HOUSE
.....

!?

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?
...UMM?
DOSA (THUD)
WHY...?
?

WHY Z!?

JUDGE

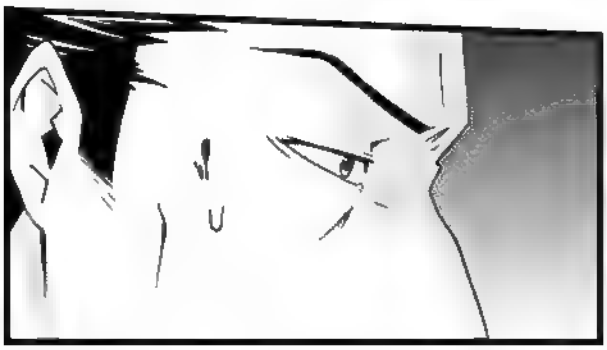
SOMEBODY .....
ANYBODY. PLEASE, SAVE HER .....
GET RINA OUT OF HERE.
HOW...
HOW COME...?

WHY ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE HERE...?
BYKU (FLINCH)
KA (CLACK)
AH.....

CHAPTER 30 NINE PEOPLE

GU
(SHOVE)
GU
.....!?

GA
(WHAM)



WH—
WHAT'RE YOU.....?

DID YOU KNOW, YOU LITTLE SHIT?

GIRI (GRIT)
...IT WAS THAT GIRL.
HUH.....?
SHE'S THE ONE WHO SET UP THIS GAME, ISN'T SHE!!?
YOU MEAN HIKARI...?

.....NO.
THE DEAD MAN DOWNSTAIRS WHO'S ALL CUT UP...
I SAW HER AT A TRIAL WHERE HE WAS THE DEFENDANT.
I REMEMBER HER FACE.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE... YOU MUST BE MISTAKING HER FOR SOMEONE ELSE...
GU (SHOVE)
GU

WHAT'S HER END-GAME!!?
GU (SLAM)
TELL ME!!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHI—
.....
TSK!
PURU (TREMBLE)
PURU
AHHHGH!
AGH!
GU

KOFF!
KOFF!
I GUESS YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING...
PA (RELEASE)
.....!?
H-HOLD ON!
BA (SHOUT)
WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
KA (CLACK)
PITA (PAUSE)

...ABOUT WHATEVER ILLICIT SECRETS PERTAINING TO THIS CASE SHE'S HIDING.
TO QUESTION THE GIRL DIRECTLY...
KA
WAIT.....

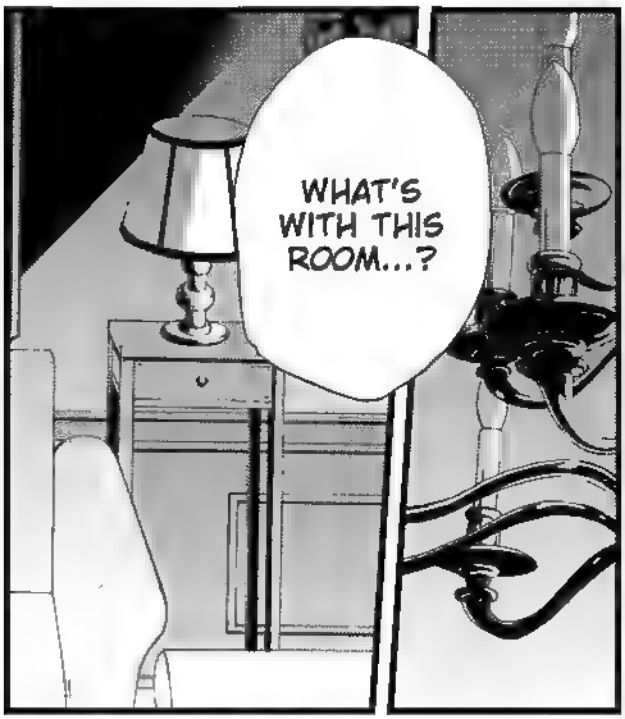
.....
GAN (BANG)
DAMMIT!
KA (CLACK)
IF I CAN'T FIND HER SEARCHING THIS PLACE...
NOT IN HERE EITHER.

DON'T TELL ME...
.....
.....HEY!
...SHE WENT INTO THE ROOMS OVER THERE?
HUFF!
HUFF!

EVEN IF IT WAS, HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S NOT JUST A COINCIDENCE...
WAS IT REALLY HIKARI YOU SAW?
ARE YOU...
...HONESTLY SUGGESTING THAT?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU.
KA (CLACK)
THIS IS AN ACT OF VENGEANCE, PERPETRATED BY SOMEONE WHO BEARS A GRUDGE AGAINST US.

AND YET YOU PROPOSE THAT IT'S ALL A COINCIDENCE?
OF THE PEOPLE IMPRISONED HERE, THERE'S ME, THE MAN COVERED IN CUTS, AND THAT GIRL...
EVEN IF IT'S JUST THE THREE OF US, THERE'S A CONNECTION.
Gii (CREEEAK)
NO MATTER.
.....

KA
(CLACK)
.....

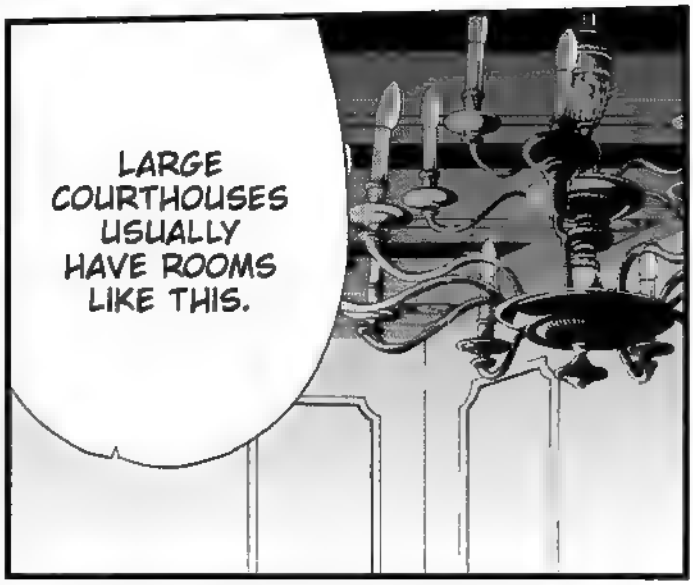

WHAT'S WITH THIS ROOM...?

THE RECEPTION OFFICE.

I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT SOON ENOUGH.

HUH.....?
PON (PAT)

...THIS ONE'S FAIRLY OLD, THOUGH.


LARGE COURTHOUSES USUALLY HAVE ROOMS LIKE THIS.

WHAT WAS THE CASE ABOUT...THE ONE WHERE YOU SAW HIKARI?

TELL ME SOMETHING.

I REMEMBER IT WAS HIS CASE OVER WHICH I WAS PRESIDING, BUT...
RYUUJI YOSHINO...
...I CAN'T RECALL THE NATURE OF THE OFFENSE...
!

...WHO IS HE?
PERFECT...
SL (SWSH)
MAYBE IF I GET A LOOK AT HIS FACE, SOMETHING'LL COME BACK TO ME.
KACHA (CLICK)
THE OLD MAN WHO WAS KICKING UP A FUSS ABOUT NOT WANTING TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH.
.....

THIS MAN...
...WAS MIKU-SAN'S GRANDFATHER ...

GO (THUD)

WHAT IS IT?
.....

GORO (ROLL)

FURA (SWAY)

BA (DASH)
HEY...!
KA (CLACK)
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
THIS IS...

!
I SEE.
YOU WERE ALL WATCHING WHAT WE WERE DOING FROM HERE.
HOW AWFUL...

.....
DA
(DASH)
IT CAN'T BE...
S...
(RISE)

SHIT!

KA

H-HOLD ON!!

WHAT THE HELL IS ALL THIS .....!!?

BA (SLAM)

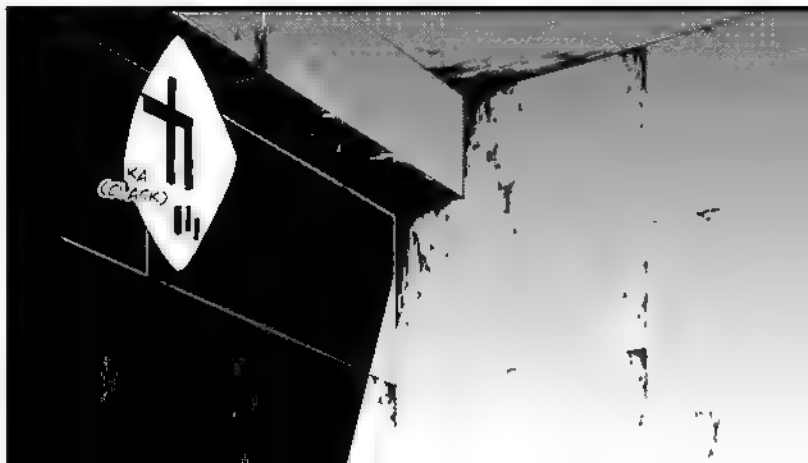
HUFF!

HUFF!

KA (CLACK)

H-HOLD ON!!

BA (DASH)


KA (CRACK)

SHIT!
KA
WHAT THE HELL IS ALL THIS .....!!?
HUFF!
HUFF!

.....
BA (LUNGE)
HAVE YOU REMEMBERED SOMETHING?
HE WAS WEARING THE CAT HEAD...
THIS MAN...
...WAS HE ASAMI-SAN'S BOYFRIEND?

HE WAS A JUDGE, LIKE ME.
MANY YEARS AGO...
...THERE WAS A PERIOD WHERE WE WERE WORKING TOGETHER IN THE SAME COURTHOUSE.
HUH.....?
WHAT'S SOMEONE LIKE HIM DOING HERE?

...THEN THAT CASE IS WHAT YOU ALL HAVE IN COMMON?
ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THIS ROOM...
...HAVE SOME CONNECTION TO *THAT CASE.*
AND IT'S NOT JUST HIM.

IT'S NOT JUST THAT!!

ゴロ
GORO
ゴロ
GORO (ROLL)

WE WERE ALL...
...SITTING IN THOSE SEATS...
SEATS.....?
THAT'S RIGHT...

THE SEATS UP FRONT...

...WHERE THE JUDGES AND JURORS SIT.....!!

AREN'T WE MISSING SOMEONE...?

HOLD ON...

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

THE SEATS UP FRONT...
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

...WHERE THE JUDGES AND JURORS SIT.....!!
AREN'T WE MISSING SOMEONE...?
HOLD ON...

THERE WERE SIX JURORS AND THREE JUDGES...
SO WHY ISN'T THE OTHER JUDGE HERE?
WHY IS THAT GIRL HERE INSTEAD!?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN DURING THAT TRIAL?

THAT'S RIGHT.
SOMETHING .....
THAT CASE, IT WAS...
SU (SLIDE)

TOSU
(STAB)

AT LAST...

.....

HUH?

BUT IT WAS JUST A TRIAL FOR A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT...

...CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER ...

...CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER ...

TOSU
(STAB)
AT LAST...
.....
HUH?
BUT IT WAS JUST A TRIAL FOR A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT...

...YOU'VE FINALLY REMEMBERED?

...YOU'VE FINALLY REMEMBERED?

YOU SCUM...

POTA
(DRIP)
POTA
PASHA
(SPLASH)
.....NN!
.....
HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO SLEEP?
KARAN
(CLANK)

KUH.....

GISHI-
(SQUEAK)

DON'T STRUGGLE TOO MUCH.

IT WAS A PAIN IN THE ASS TO PREPARE ALL THIS.

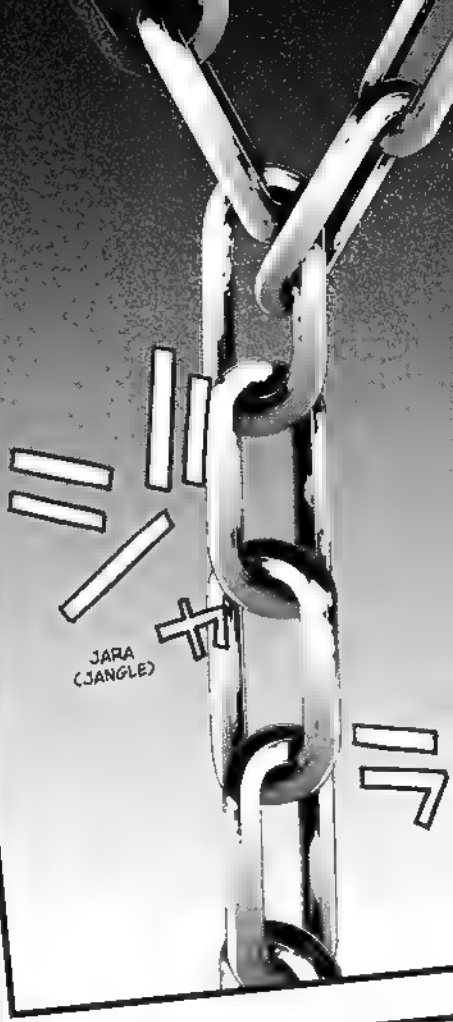
IT'D BE A WASTE IF YOU DIED TOO QUICKLY.

WHAT IS THIS?

WH.....

JARA
(JANGLE)

CHAPTER 31 VERDICT



CHAPTER 31 VERDICT

KUH.....
GISHI-
(SQUEAK)
DON'T STRUGGLE TOO MUCH.
WHAT IS THIS?
IT WAS A PAIN IN THE ASS TO PREPARE ALL THIS.
IT'D BE A WASTE IF YOU DIED TOO QUICKLY.

I SET UP THIS GAME BECAUSE I WANTED TO WATCH YOU ALL SUFFER WITH MY OWN TWO EYES.
SU (SWSH)
KACHA (CLACK)

SO YOU WERE THE MASTERMIND BEHIND ALL OF THIS...?
.....

IT'S BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE I LEARNED THAT THE TRIAL WAS FIXED...
I SPENT THAT TIME PREPARING FOR THIS DAY.
TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, I WANTED TO SEE YOU ALL KILL ONE ANOTHER GRUESOMELY...
...SO I TRIED TO SET THINGS IN MOTION WITH THAT IN MIND.
BUT IT WAS EVEN MORE ENTERTAINING THAN I'D IMAGINED.

.....
YOU AND YOUR SON WERE ESPECIALLY HELPFUL AT STIRRING THINGS UP.

AS SOON AS YOU WERE TOLD TO KILL ONE ANOTHER OFF, YOU DIDN'T EVEN HESITATE TO PULL THE TRIGGER, DID YOU?

...AND STEADILY PUSHING THE GAME ONWARD...
TAKIZAWA WAS ALSO PRETTY GREAT AT BRINGING EVERYONE DOWN...

THANKS TO HIM, I GOT TO SEE SOME REPULSIVE DEATHS TAKE PLACE, UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL.

...THERE WERE SOME MINOR HICCUPS.
...WELL...
MY PLANS WERE SOMEWHAT SCREWED UP WHEN SHINOMIYA FAILED TO DIE FROM THE GUN BACKFIRING...

HONESTLY ...
...THAT IDIOT WAS A STUBBORN PAIN IN MY ASS.
WHAT'RE YOU HOPING TO ACCOMPLISH?
IS IT REVENGE YOU'RE AFTER?
.....
ATSUYA SAKURAI.
THE ONE WHO DIED IN THAT ACCIDENT WAS MY BROTHER.

THE IDENTITIES OF JURORS ARE NEVER MADE PUBLIC.
HOW DID YOU KNOW WHO THEY WERE?
KA (CLACK)
GOSO (RUMMAGE)
EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T KNOW THE IDENTITIES OF THE JURORS, FINDING OUT WHO THE THREE JUDGES WERE WAS EASY ENOUGH.

...THAT'S...
I ONLY HAD TO THREATEN HIM A LITTLE, AND HE SPILLED EVERYTHING.
KA (CLACK)
THE OTHER JUDGE, THE ONE WHO WASN'T IN HERE WITH US...
SU (SWSH)

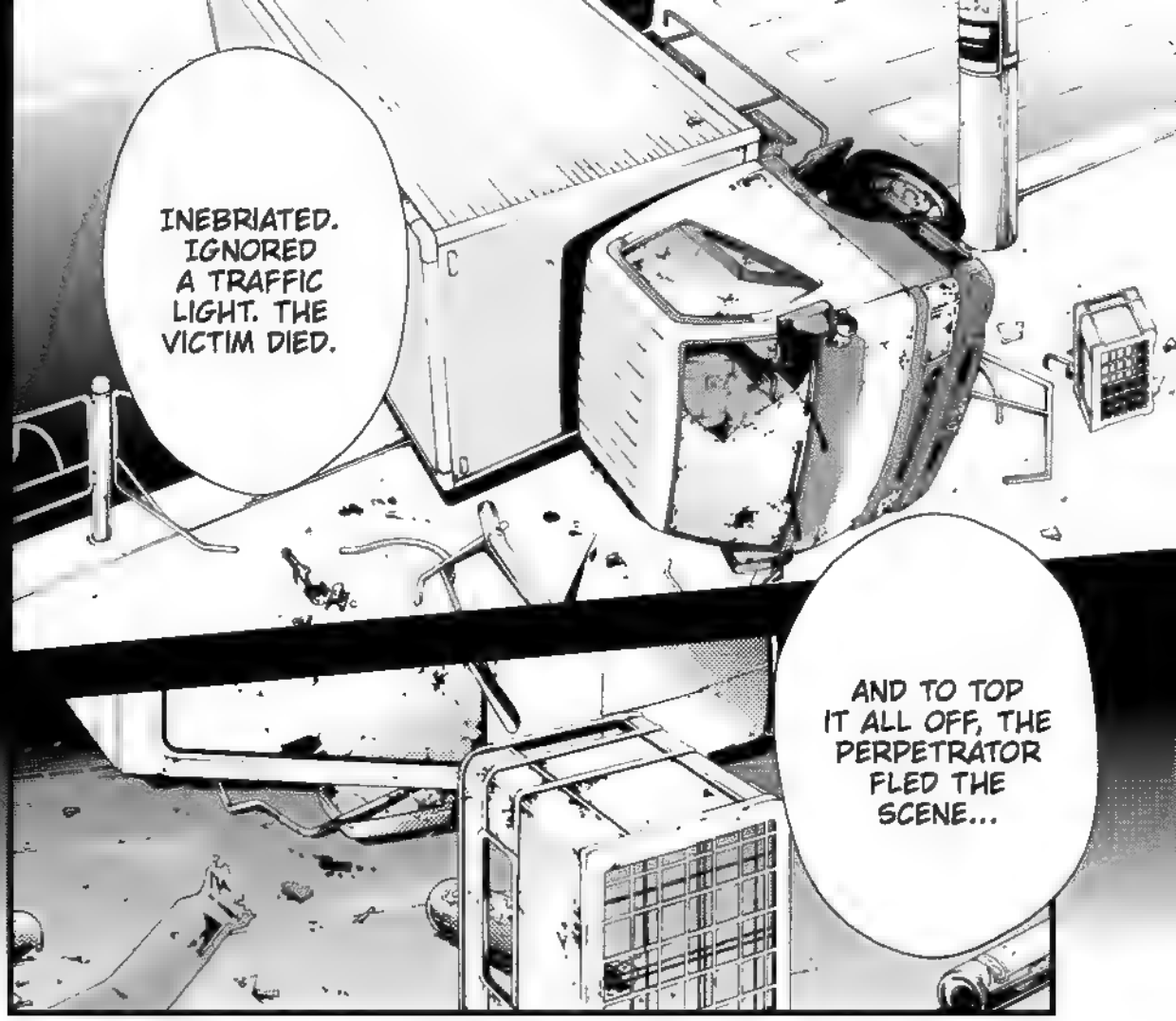
ONE HUNDRED MILLION...
.....I...
THE COMPANY THE PERPETRATOR WORKED FOR PAID IT.
...THAT'S HOW MUCH WAS GIVEN TO THE JURORS AND JUDGES OF THAT TRIAL...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOU—

YOU WERE ACQUAINTED WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY HE WORKED FOR.
!
YOU FACILITATED THE BRIBERY OF THE JURORS.
SU (SHK)
NO USE DENYING IT.
JWA (SEE-)
GASU (STAB)
.....!?
AH...!
AGHH ...
GU (YANK)

PICHA (SPLAT)
PICHA
...THE DRIVER WAS ENGAGED TO THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE COMPANY'S PRESIDENT...
...AND...
SU (SWSH)

.....THE DEAD CAN NEVER BE RESURRECTED.
...THERE SHOULD BE LIMITS TO INDULGING YOUR CHILD.
EVEN IF HIS DAUGHTER BEGGED HIM TO BRIBE ALL OF YOU...

YOU WERE ALSO PAID A MUCH LARGER COMPENSATION THAN ONE WOULD NORMALLY RECEIVE, WEREN'T YOU?
THAT DRIVER STILL HAD A FUTURE AHEAD OF HIM.
...FUCK YOU.
DON (SHOVE)
WE MADE A JUDGMENT CALL THAT WAS BENEFICIAL TO EVERYONE.
GATA (RATTLE)
AUGH! GUH!!
GATA


INEBRIATED. IGNORED A TRAFFIC LIGHT. THE VICTIM DIED.
AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF, THE PERPETRATOR FLED THE SCENE...

CLI (STRAIN)
AND AT THE START OF THE TRIAL, THINGS LOOKED TO BE HEADED IN THAT DIRECTION.

AN ACCIDENT LIKE THAT COMES WITH A MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF FIFTEEN YEARS OF HARD TIME.
HUFF...
HUFF...

GU (GRIP)
HIS FUTURE .....?
...AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, HIS SENTENCE WAS SUSPENDED.
BUT THEN, WHEN THE TRIAL WAS COMING TO A CLOSE, THE VERDICT BECAME A SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS...
...STOLE MY BROTHER AND HIKARI'S FUTURE!!
THAT BASTARD ...
WHY SHOULD HE GET TO HAVE A FUTURE!!?

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WHY GO SO FAR AS TO KILL THE FAMILY OF THE JURORS?
BA (SHOUT)
IF YOU WANTED VENGEANCE, WOULDN'T THE JURORS THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN ENOUGH?
TEN MILLION.
THAT'S THE AMOUNT OF THE BRIBE THAT EACH PERSON RECEIVED.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT MONEY GOT USED FOR?
.....?

THE JUDGE WHO SPENT MONEY LIKE IT WAS WATER FOR A HIGH-MAINTENANCE WOMAN...
THE MAN WHO NEEDED MONEY TO PROTECT HIS POSITION...
THE FATHER WHO USED IT FOR HIS SON, WHO WAS A SHUT-IN...

THE WOMAN WHO BOUGHT DRUGS AND MEN TO USE FOR BRIEF BOUTS OF PLEASURE...

THE FATHER WHO THINKS OF NOTHING BUT HIS OWN SUCCESS, LOOKING DOWN ON EVERYONE ELSE...

THE PARENT WHO SET ASIDE CAPITAL FOR THEIR SON, WHO DIDN'T DO ANY WORK, AND HIS NEGLECTED FACTORY...
THE COST OF PLASTIC SURGERY FOR THE GRAND-DAUGHTER WHOSE HEART WAS UGLY...

EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU, NOTHING BUT TRASH!
PARI (TINKLE)
GA (WHAM)
FOR SCUM LIKE YOU ALL, MY BROTHER IS DEPRIVED OF JUSTICE .....!?
HA-HA!
.....

I WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT...
...SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD GET YOU SO WORKED UP.
.....WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
GU (PUSH)
.....

ONE HUNDRED MILLION...
WHAT.....?

THAT'S THE SUM YOUR BROTHER WAS WORTH.
PEOPLE LIKE YOU HAVE TO WORK AN ENTIRE LIFETIME TO EARN THAT KIND OF MONEY.
BUT...
GU (CLENCH)
...IT PALES IN COMPARISON TO WHAT I'M WORTH.
RIKU (TWITCH)
IF ANYTHING, YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO ME FOR PROVING THAT.
GU (STRAIN)
GU

DO YOU HAVE THE SLIGHTEST CLUE OF THE REPER-CUSSIONS...
...OF DOING THIS TO SOMEONE LIKE ME!?

GII (CREAK)
THE REPERCUS-SIONS..... HMM.

KA
(CLACK)
GIII
Y.....
KA
YOU'RE...

.....I KNEW IT.
KA (CLACK)
YOU WERE COMPLICIT IN THIS...
NIKO (GRIN)

KU (GULP)
WHERE'S THE REMAINING MOTHER-DAUGHTER PAIR?
KACHA (CLANK)
LOOKS LIKE HE REMEMBERS.
SU (SWSH)
WE'RE ALL GOOD. EVERYTHING'S GONE AS PLANNED.
I TOOK THE TWO OF THEM TO ANOTHER AREA.
YEAH.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO STOP.
HEAR ME OUT.
HEY.

AS THINGS STAND NOW, THERE'S NO WAY YOU'LL GET AWAY WITH THIS.
IF YOU RETHINK THIS, I'LL HELP YOU COVER IT ALL UP.

SU (SLIP)

.....

WE FOUND IT IN YOUR SON'S ROOM.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO BE...?

TDK DVD-R DL 85
DATA ON ALL YOUR CROOKED DEALINGS UP TO THIS POINT, ALREADY NEATLY COMPILED FOR US.

LOOKS LIKE YOUR SON WAS PREPARING TO TAKE YOU DOWN SOMEDAY.

WHA—!?

BURU (TREMBLE)
BURU
THAT DISGRACE TO THE FAMILY WAS—
GU (GNASH)
.....
THAT WAS QUITE THE CHILD YOU HAD.

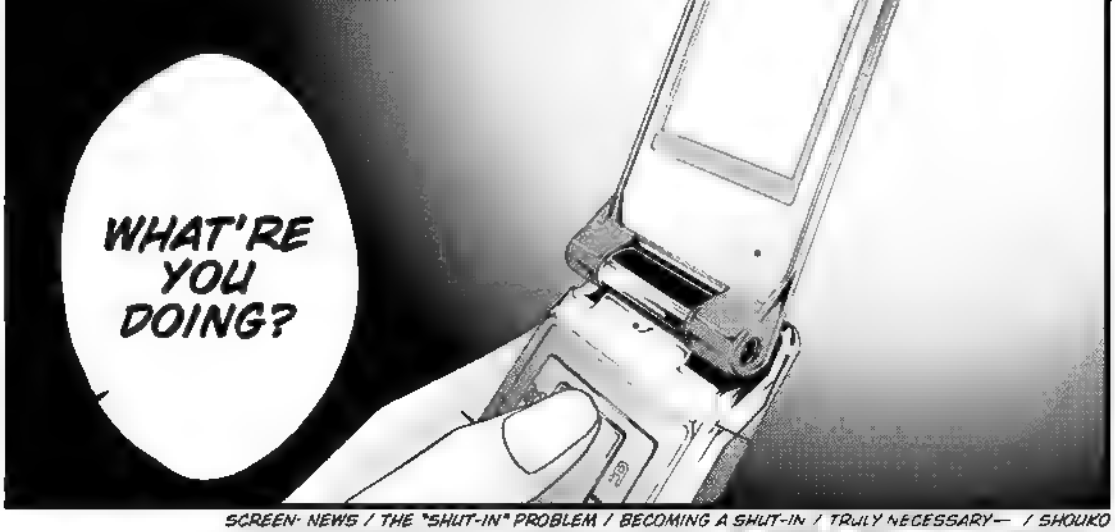
THAT SORT OF INFORMATION TAKES NO EFFORT AT ALL TO BURY.
HE KNEW THAT, AND IT'S WHY HE COULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITH IT BUT KEEP IT HIDDEN AWAY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO WITH THAT?

YOU WON'T GET ANYWHERE TRYING TO THREATEN ME WITH THAT!!

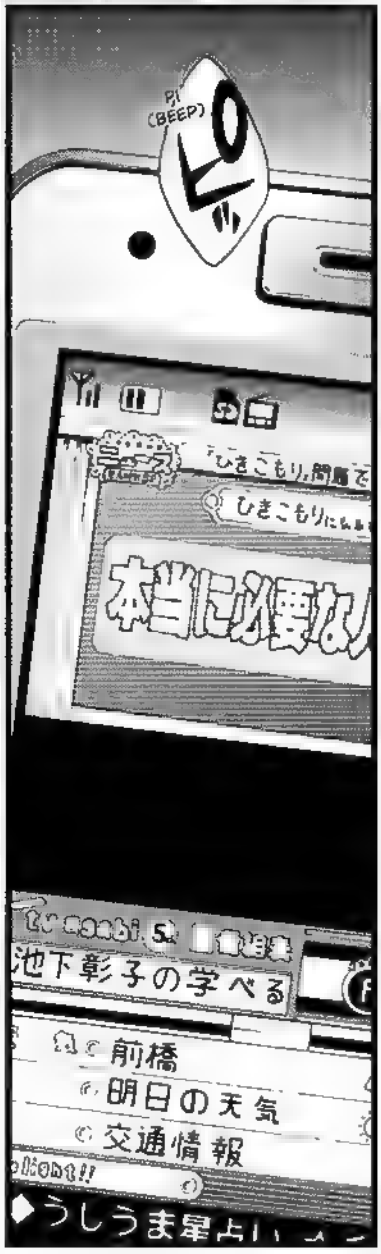
.....?
.....

HEH.

KACHI (TAP)
KACHI



SCREEN- NEWS / THE "SHUT-IN" PROBLEM / BECOMING A SHUT-IN / TRULY NECESSARY— / SHOUKO IKESHITA'S INVESTIGATIONS / WEATHER IN MAEBASHI / TOMORROW'S FORECAST / TRAFFIC REPORT



It appears progress has been made in the investigation into those suspected of involvement...
...in the case of over ten people who simultaneously went missing.

WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?

HA-HA!
LOOKS LIKE THE POLICE ARE ALREADY HOT ON YOUR TRAIL!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO TURN YOURSELF IN.
ニュースストレイト
前橋
明日の天気
交通情報

The police have announced that suspect Kazunori Takizawa...
SCREEN: BREAKING NEWS / PROGRAM LISTINGS
"STRAIGHT NEWS" / WEATHER IN MAEBASHI
速報
tv asahi
ニュースストレイト
前橋
...an active-duty judge, is now the focus of a nationwide manhunt.

Suspect Takizawa stands accused of illegally exchanging money and goods during trials over the span of many years...
...and it appears the police are looking into the connection between those bribes and the people currently missing.
滝沢
takizawa

WHY AM I...
WHA.....
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
...WE SENT AN AUDIO RECORDING WE MADE WHILE GETTING INFORMATION OUT OF THAT OTHER JUDGE...
KARA (CLATTER)
BEFORE WE STARTED THIS GAME...
...ALONG WITH COPIES OF THIS DATA, TO THE POLICE AND MEDIA OUTLETS.

THE SHOCKWAVES IT'S SENDING OUT HAVE EXCEEDED MY EXPECTATIONS.
WHILE WE'VE BEEN IN HERE, THE MEDIA'S BEEN IN A FRENZY OUT THERE.
NO.....
AND YET, ALL THE WHILE...
KUSU (CHUCKLE)
...YOU'VE BEEN IN HERE, LOOKING DOWN ON US, WITH THAT ARROGANT LOOK ON YOUR FACE.
GATA
GATA (RATTLE)

KUSU
クス
HUFF...
HUFF...
I SUPPOSE WE COULD LET YOU LEAVE HERE ALIVE...
...BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK IS GONNA HAPPEN ONCE YOU DO?

KUSU (SNICKER)
クス
HUFF...
I'M SURE IT'LL BE HELL.
HUFF...
KUSU
クス
KUSU
クス
KUSU
クス
E.....
ENOUGH .....

STOOOP
IIIIIT!!

OUGH
.....

GISHI
(STRAIN)

BEKI
(CRUNCH)

#7

UAHH
.....

BIN
(SNAP)

EE.....!

ZURU
(SLIP)

EE.....!
BIN (SNAP)
ZURU (SLIP)

OUGH
.....
GISHI (STRAIN)
GISHI
BEKI (CRUNCH)
UAHH
.....

.....!
KOTO (CLUNK)

ミィ
ミィ
ミィ
GII (CREAK)

JUDGE

AFTER THE CUTTHROAT MURDERS OF EVERYONE INVOLVED WHO HAD EVIDENCE OF HIS IMPROPRIETY, AND WITH NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN...
...HE KILLED HIS SON, WHO WAS HIS ACCOMPLICE, AND THEN TOOK HIS OWN LIFE...

THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE IS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT.
TON (TMP)
IT'S ALL OVER NOW.....
POTA (DRP)
POTA
NO, YOU'RE WRONG, HIRO.
HIKARI .....?

OF OUR NEW LIVES...
THIS IS THE BEGINNING.
SU (SST)

LAST CHAPTER
COURT ADJOURNED

GATA (CLATTER)
GATA
判所
SIGN: COURTHOUSE
COURT IS NOW ADJOURNED.
GU (CLENCH)
THEY GAVE HIM A SUSPENDED SENTENCE?
HOW CAN THEY DO THAT.....?

HIKARI .....?
WHAT SORT OF JUDGMENT IS THAT!!?
ZAWA
ZAWA (MURMUR)
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON HERE!!
WHY'RE YOU GIVING HIM SUCH A LIGHT SENTENCE!?
WHAT'RE YOU!?
GABA (GRAB)
SHOUTING IN THE COURTROOM IS NOT TOLERATED.

STOP IT... LET GO OF ME!!
HMPH.
WHAT A TROUBLESOME GIRL.
.....
チラ
CHIRA (GLANCE)
GAN (CLANG)
非常口
EXIT
コク
KOKU (NOD)
.....

THE MAN WHO CAUSED SUCH A HORRIFIC ACCIDENT...
HOW CAN THIS BE.....?
POTA (DRIP)
POTA
...AND STOLE ATSUYA-SAN'S LIFE AWAY...
...JUST GETS A FREE PASS TO DO HIS LIFE OVER?
WHY.....
ZUZU (SLUMP)

...DID ATSUYA-SAN HAVE TO DIE!?
HIKARI.....
SL
(REACH)
.....
→CLICK←

THAT MAN...
!
AND THE MAN NEXT TO HIM...
...I THINK HE WAS ONE OF THE JUDGES...
...WAS THE DEFENDANT'S LAWYER.....

WHAT'RE THEY DOING BACK HERE...?
SU (SHWD)
IT.....
10,000,000※
IT CAN'T BE!
?

CHECK: CHECK, BANK OF JAPAN, AMOUNT: ¥10,000,000.
PLEASE PAY THE AMOUNT ABOVE TO THE BEARER OF THIS CHECK.
¥10,000,000※
THEY...
...BOUGHT THE VERDICT...
UNFORGIVABLE ...
BA (JUMP)
THAT RULING IS DEFINITELY INVALID!!
GU (CLENCH)

IT'S NO USE.
HIRO...?
GA (GRAB)
!?
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!!
IF THEY'RE REALLY UP TO SOMETHING, THEN I HAVE TO CONFRONT THEM, OR—

THEN WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT IT!?
EVEN IF YOU GO NOW, THEY'LL ONLY FEIGN IGNORANCE.
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO JUST STAND BY AND WATCH THIS HAPPEN!?
.....WE'LL DO IT.

.....
HUH?
GU
CCLENCH
THIS TIME...
...WE'LL BE THE ONES TO JUDGE THEM.

.....
KA
CLACK

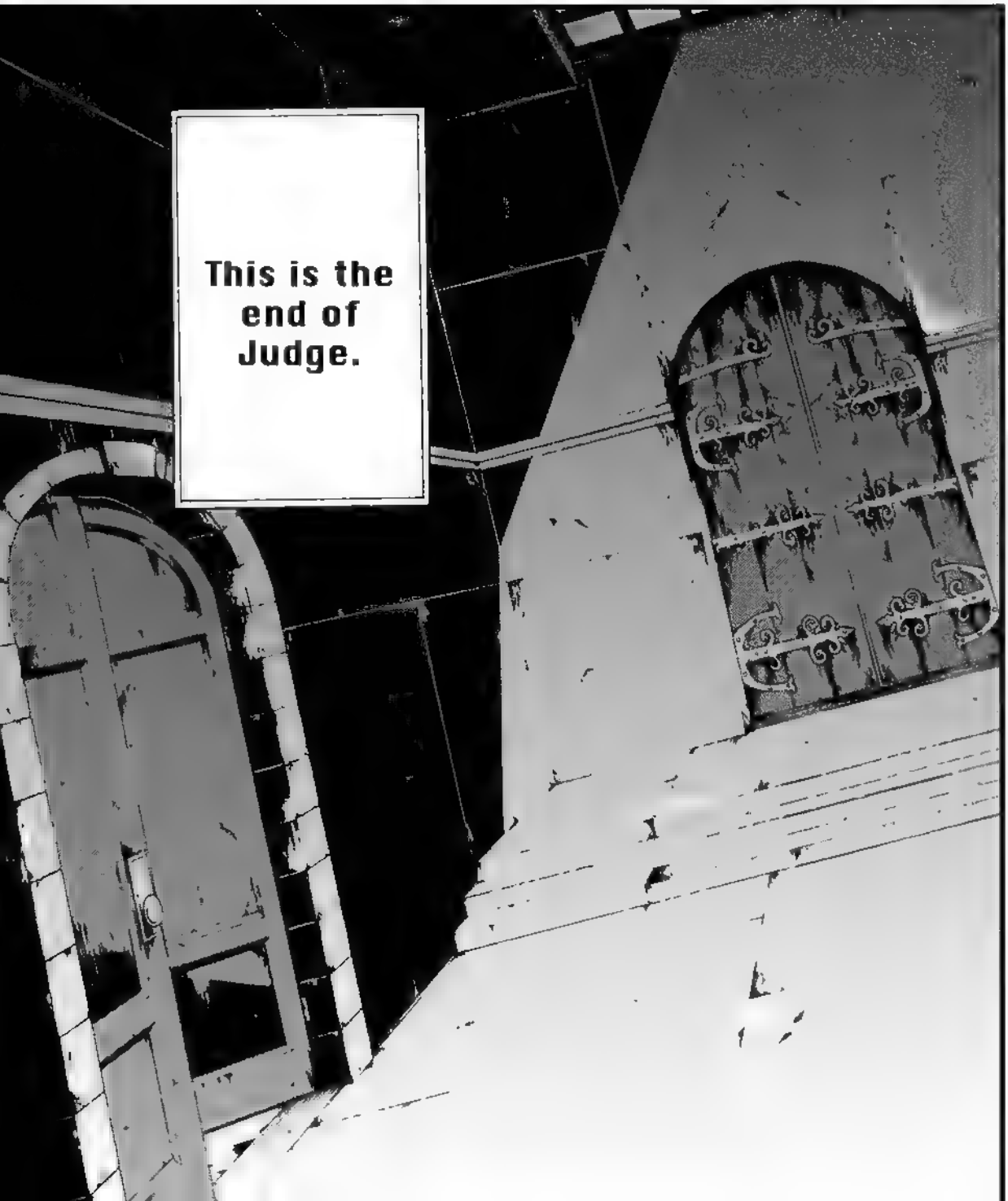
IT'S THANKS TO YOU, HIRO, THAT I WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT THIS FAR...

I'M GRATEFUL, YOU KNOW.

HUH.....?

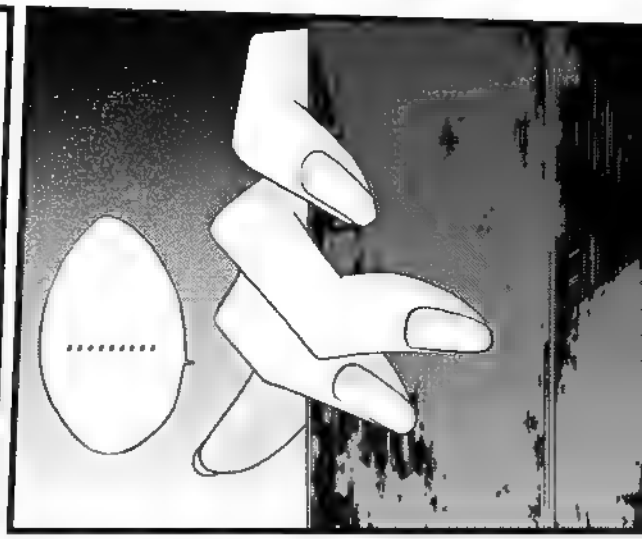
HIKARI.....
LET'S HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF HERE.
SO WE CAN START OUR NEW LIVES.
...I'M DONE BEING STUCK IN THE PAST...
THAT'S WHY...
KURU- (FWIP)
YEAH.....

I pray that those of you who have survived will overcome your past sins...
...and that you all have happy futures ahead of you.
Well done, everyone.
ZA (FSHH)


This is the end of Judge.

Gill
(CREEEAK)

BIKU!
(FLINCH)
RINA!


.....

HIRO.....!

SU
(SLIDE)
KACHA
(CLICK)
MOM...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES...
IF YOU HADN'T HIDDEN ME BACK THEN...
...I'M SURE I'D BE DEAD RIGHT NOW...
THANK YOU.

IT'S TRUE, THEY OFFERED US BRIBES DURING THAT TRIAL.
STILL, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
...EVERYONE ELSE ACCEPTED THE MONEY.....
I WAS TERRIFIED AND REFUSED TO TAKE IT, BUT...
I... SAW IT...
.....
BUT TO THINK THAT SOMEONE WOULD ACT OUT THIS GAME OF MURDER BECAUSE OF IT...

I SAW THAT MAN KILL TAKIZAWA...
RINA...?
.....
HE'S A MAN WHO WOULD MURDER HIS OWN SON IN ORDER TO PROTECT HIS SECRETS.
!?

BUT WAIT.
HOW CRUEL...
SO I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT HE WAS CAPABLE OF SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
IF THAT'S THE CASE...
...THEN WHO WAS BEHIND THE JUDGMENTS WE WERE FORCED TO MAKE...?
...TAKIZAWA WAS ALSO HIS ACCOMPLICE.

I SEE .....
BUT I GUESS HIS FATHER GOT RID OF HIM ONCE HE WAS NO LONGER OF ANY USE.
HE MUST'VE BEEN FOLLOWING HIS FATHER'S ORDERS.
.....
GATA (CLATTER)
BACK THEN...

HE DIDN'T HESITATE TO CHANGE HIS ATTITUDE IN ORDER TO PROTECT ASAMI-SAN, SO...
...I THOUGHT MAYBE I SHOULD BE SUSPICIOUS OF HIM, BUT...
SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE BUYING IT.
KOKU (NOD)
...IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS JUST OVERTHINKING THINGS...
HO (PHEW)
...GOOD.

PI
(BEEP)

!?
GACHA
(CLANK)

GII
(CREAK)

.....COULD
THAT BE...?

WE MADE IT OUT...

YORO (STAGGER)

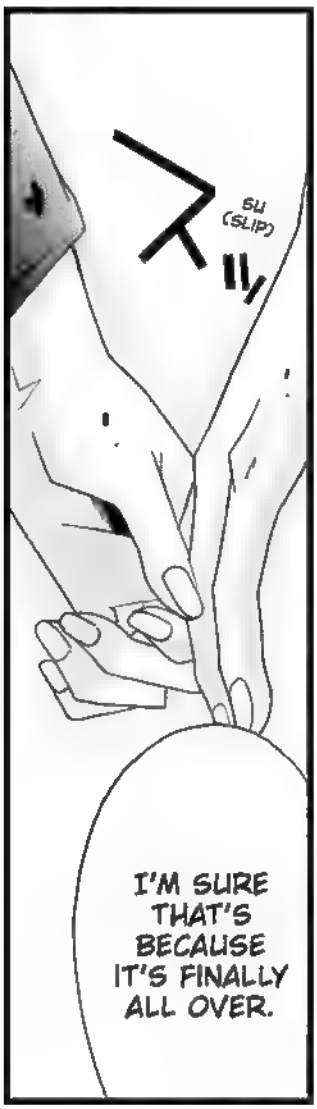
...MOM .....

...THE EXIT .....!?

THAT WE DID.....

...THE EXIT ...!?
WE MADE IT OUT...
ヨロ
YORO (STAGGER)
...MOM .....
THAT WE DID.....

IT'S STRANGE.
.....


SU (SLIP)
I'M SURE THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S FINALLY ALL OVER.

YES, IT DOES...

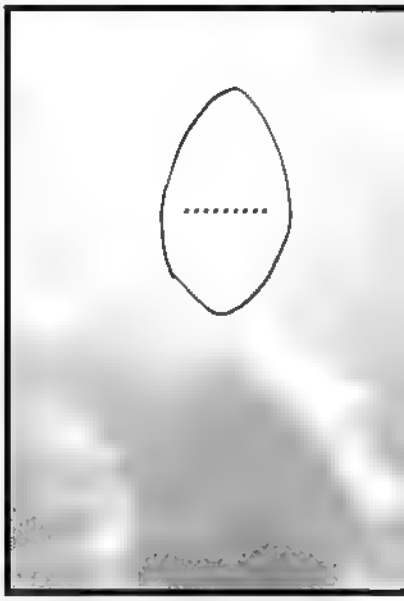
EVEN THOUGH I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THE SCENERY HERE...

...WITH THE WAY I'M FEELING, IT LOOKS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TO ME.

BUT YOU KNOW...
AND THE PAST TWO YEARS WERE FULL OF SO MUCH SADNESS.
...THAT'S OVER NOW TOO.
I WANT TO ENJOY LIFE FROM NOW ON.
I'M SURE ATSUYA-SAN WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME IF I DIDN'T.
HIKARI.....

FROM NOW ON...
...WE'RE GOING TO BE HAPPY.

GYU (SQUEEZE)
YOU'RE RIGHT.


.....

FOR MY BROTHER'S SAKE, LET'S LIVE OUR LIVES TO THE FULLEST...
DOKUN (BADMP)
... TOGETHER ...

ZLI
(SLUMP)
.....!

DOSA
(THUD)

HIRO?
HUFF...
HUFF...

NOOO-
OOO!!

WHAT'S WRONG!?
BA (FWIP)
HIRO! TALK TO ME!!
YORO (WOBBLE)
I DON'T KNOW...
I.....
.....!
HE SUDDENLY DOUBLED OVER IN PAIN...

TA
(TMP)
WE HAVE TO HURRY, MOM!

BA
(DASH)
WAIT HERE!
WE'LL GO CALL FOR HELP!

POTA
(PLIP)
POTA

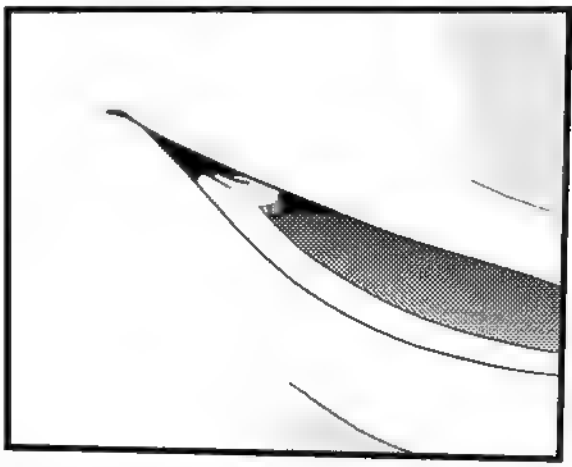
MY THROAT HURTS LIKE IT'S BURNT...
GU
(GLENCH)

HANG IN THERE!
.....!

HIRO..... HIRO!!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME.....?
SO DON'T MAKE THAT FACE...
I JUST NEED TO REST A BIT, AND I'LL FEEL BETTER.
.....
GU (GRIMACE)
I'LL BE FINE.

EH.....?

KUSU
(CHUCKLE)

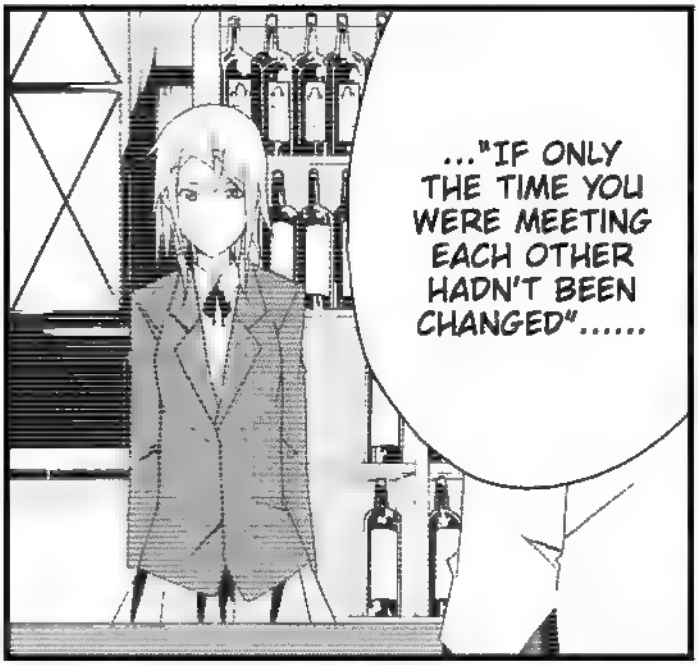


YOU STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT?

...HAD POISON IN IT?
THAT THE WATER BOTTLE I GAVE YOU BACK THEN...
YOU SEEM TO BE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT I WAS GETTING REVENGE FOR THE INJUSTICE OF THE TRIAL...
...BUT IT WASN'T JUST ABOUT THAT.
.....?
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS.....
YORO (WOBBLE)

.....AFTER THE TRIAL FINISHED...
...I WENT TO THE PLACE WHERE ATSUYA-SAN HAD WORKED.

AND THE OWNER MENTIONED SOMETHING ODD...


..."IF ONLY THE TIME YOU WERE MEETING EACH OTHER HADN'T BEEN CHANGED".....

HE SAID TO ME...

ISN'T THAT STRANGE...?
THH.....
COME TO THINK OF IT...
THHAT... WAS...
...WHAT WERE YOU DOING THERE AT THAT TIME, HIRO?

I WONDER WHY YOU WERE THERE?
GU (CLENCH)
.....!

...OF SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN ABRUPTLY THRUST FROM THE HEIGHT OF HAPPINESS, DOWN TO THE DEPTHS OF MISERY...
THAT LOOK...
ZAAA (FWSHHH)
I'M SURE I HAD THE SAME LOOK ON MY FACE BACK THEN.

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SEE THAT EXPRESSION FOR SUCH A LONG TIME.

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SEE THAT EXPRESSION FOR SUCH A LONG TIME.

.....
HIKARI .....!
ZL (DRAG)
PLEASE, WAIT...

...TO TELL YOU THAT I...
I ONLY WANTED...

.....
HIRO.

DO YOU THINK I COULD FORGIVE THE PERSON WHO'S TRULY RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING ATSUYA-SAN?
ZA (STEP)

RABBITS GET DEEPLY ENVIOUS, YOU KNOW.

JUDGE 6 End

JUDGE

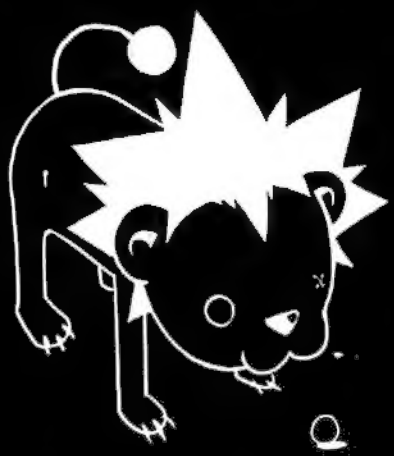
TRANSLATION NOTES

p154
One hundred million...
One hundred million yen is approximately a million dollars.

p160
Ten million...
Ten million yen is approximately a hundred thousand dollars.

p238
Rabbits get deeply envious...
Hikari is saying that rabbits [and she] are extremely possessive and protective, but uses the word ***shitto***, which is the word for "Envy," one of the seven deadly sins.

STAFF



[MANGA]

TONOGAI

NOMURA

OIKAWA

TAKAHASHI

NAGASAWA

SASAI

YOSHIMURA

[EDITOR]

NOZAKI

JUDGE 6

Yoshiki Tonogai

Translation and Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

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